

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:  
  
presenting a graphical display of a plurality of graphical depictions representing nodes in a network;  
  
accepting a user selection of a first graphical depiction representing a first node, wherein accepting the user selection comprises presenting a movable graphical line between said first graphical depiction and an on-screen cursor;  
  
automatically determining allowability of a connection to a second node represented by a second graphical depiction;  
  
indicating said allowability on said display;  
  
accepting a user selection of said second graphical depiction; and  
  
displaying a graphical representation of an allowable connection between said first node and said second node.
2. (Original) The method described in Claim 1 wherein said accepting a user selection of a first graphical depiction comprises highlighting of said first graphical depiction with a visual attribute.
3. Canceled
4. (Previously Presented) The method described in Claim 1 wherein automatically determining allowability of a connection to said second node comprises:  
  
determining whether said second graphical depiction is within a certain radius of said

on-screen cursor; and

in response to a determination that said second graphical depiction is within a certain radius of said on-screen cursor, determining whether a connection between said first node and said second node is allowed.

5. (Previously Presented) The method described in Claim 4 wherein said certain radius is displayed as an on-screen radius represented by a circle centered around said on-screen cursor.

6. (Previously Presented) The method described in Claim 5 wherein said on-screen radius is user selectable.

7. (Previously Presented) The method described in Claim 4 wherein indicating said allowability comprises presenting a movable graphical line between said on-screen cursor and said second graphical depiction.

8. (Previously Presented) The method described in Claim 1 wherein indicating said allowability comprises presenting a movable graphical line between said on-screen cursor and said second graphical depiction.

9. (Original) The method described in Claim 1 wherein said automatically determining allowability of a connection to a second node comprises accessing data in a memory-resident database of allowable connections to said first node.

10. (Original) The method described in Claim 1 wherein said graphical representation of a

connection between said first node and said second node comprises a line between said first graphical depiction and said second graphical depiction.

11. (Previously Presented) The method described in Claim 1 wherein said network is a provisionable network, wherein said nodes are heterogeneous, and wherein said method further comprises implementing said allowable connection in said network such that an actual connection is formed between said first node and said second node.

12. Canceled.

13. Canceled.

14. Canceled.

15. Canceled.

16. Canceled.

17. Canceled.

18. Canceled.

19. Canceled.

20. Canceled.

21. (Previously Presented) A computer system having one or more processors coupled to a memory wherein said memory comprises instructions that, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to implement a method comprising:

presenting a graphical display of a plurality of graphical depictions representing nodes in a network;

accepting a user selection of a first graphical depiction representing a first node,

wherein accepting the user selection comprises presenting a movable graphical line between said first graphical depiction and an on-screen cursor;

automatically determining allowability of a connection to a second node if represented by a second graphical depiction;

indicating said allowability on said display;

accepting a user selection of said second graphical depiction; and

displaying a graphical representation of an allowable connection between said first node and said second node.

22. (Original) The computer system described in Claim 21 wherein said accepting a user selection of a first graphical depiction comprises highlighting of said first graphical depiction with a visual attribute.

23. Canceled.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer system described in Claim 21 wherein automatically determining allowability of a connection to said second node comprises:

determining whether said second graphical depiction is within a certain radius of said on-screen cursor; and

in response to a determination that said second graphical depiction is within a certain radius of said on-screen cursor, determining whether a connection between said first node and said second node is allowed.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer system described in Claim 24 wherein said

certain radius is displayed as an on screen radius represented by a circle centered around said on-screen cursor.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer system described in Claim 25 wherein said on screen radius is user selectable.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer system described in Claim 24 wherein indicating said allowability comprises presenting a movable graphical line between said on-screen cursor and said second graphical depiction.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer system described in Claim 21 wherein indicating said allowability comprises presenting a movable graphical line between said on-screen cursor and said second graphical depiction.

29. (Original) The computer system described in Claim 21 wherein said automatically determining allowability of a connection to a second node comprises accessing data in a memory-resident database of allowable connections to said first node.

30. (Original) The computer system described in Claim 21 wherein said graphical representation of a connection between said first node and said second node comprises a line between said first graphical depiction and said second graphical depiction.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer system described in Claim 21 wherein said network is a provisionable network, wherein said nodes are heterogeneous, and wherein said

method further comprises implementing said allowable connection in said network such that an actual connection is formed between said first node and said second node.

32. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

presenting a graphical display of a plurality of graphical depictions representing a plurality of nodes in a network;

accepting a user selection of a first graphical depiction representing a first node;

in response to the user selection of the first graphical depiction, and without requiring any further user input, automatically determining a set of two or more other nodes in said network that may be connected to said first node, wherein said set of other nodes is represented by a set of other graphical depictions in said graphical display; and

altering the appearance of each graphical depiction in said set of other graphical depictions to indicate that said set of other nodes may be connected to said first node.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein altering the appearance of each graphical depiction in said set of other graphical depictions comprises highlighting each graphical depiction in said set of other graphical depictions.